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PLEDGE HIGHER AGRICULTURAL YIELDS; PREPARE FOR SPRING SOWING

TO RAISE YIELD OF WHEAT, CORN -- Sofia, Rabotnichesko Delo, 31 Dec 50

In an open letter to Prime Minister Vulko Chervenkov, the Farm Workers' Cooperatives, MTS, and State Farms of Lom Okoliya pledged to attain the following yields and complete the following assignments in 1951:

- 1. Wheat: 400 kilograms per decare from an area of 8,562 decares; 350 kilograms per decare from an area of 10,049 decares; 300 kilograms per decare from an area of 22,894 decares; 260 kilograms per decare from an area of 48,165 decares, and 200 kilograms per decare from the entire sowing area under cooperative cultivation.
- 2. Corn: 700 kilograms per decare from an area of 4,446 decares; 600 kilograms per decare from an area of 8,572 decares; 500 kilograms from an area of 21,350 decares; 450 kilograms from an area of 36,520 decares, and 250 kilograms per decare from the entire sowing area under cooperative cultivation.
- 3. Sunflower seed: 300 kilograms per decare from an area of 1,338 decares; 250 kilograms from an area of 3,385 decares; 180 kilograms from an area of 13,238 decares; and 170 kilograms per decare from the entire sowing area under cooperative cultivation.
- 4. Sugar beets: 4,000 kilograms per decare from an area of 715 decares, and 2,500 kilograms per decare from the entire sowing area under cooperative cultivation.
- 5. Tomatoes: 6,000 kilograms per decare from an area of 254 decares; 5,500 kilograms from an area of 90 decares, and 3,500 kilograms per decare from the entire sowing area under cooperative cultivation.

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6. Peppers: 4,000 kilograms per decare from an area of 185 decares; 3,500 kilograms from an area of 94 decares, and 1,300 kilograms per decare from the entire sowing area under cooperative cultivation.

In addition, the farmers pledged to collect 55,976 tons of manure for the fertilization of their fields and truck farms, and 6,825 tons of wood ashes.

Snow retention facilities will be provided for 23,307 decares of land.

Livestock farms will be set up as follows:

I. Breeding farms; cattle farms ranging from those with 23 cows to those with 900 cows; sheep farms ranging from to 16 to 3,100 sheep; stud farms ranging from 14 to 495 mares; pig farms ranging from 11 to 600 sows; and poultry farms ranging from 10 to 15,000 fowls.

II. Animal husbandry farms: cattle farms ranging from 45 to 2,600 cows; sheep farms ranging from 59 to 37,000 sheep; horse farms ranging from 10 to 250 mares; pig farms ranging from 48 to 1,600 sows; and poultry farms ranging from 49 to 37,000 fowls.

By the end of 1951, these farms will be expanded by the addition of the following young animals: 500 calves, 8,000 lambs, 85 fillies, 760 gilts, 20,000 pullets, 1,000 goslings, 830 ducklings, and 150 poults.

The cattle farms will set up 12 groups of eight cows each, which should yield 3,600 liters of milk per cow, and 15 groups of eight cows each, which should yield an average of 3,000 liters per cow.

The sheep farms will set up 24 groups of 80 sheep each, which should yield 100 liters of milk and kilograms of wool and average one lamb, weighing 21 kilograms at weaning, per sheep.

The pig farms will set up 10 groups of eight sows each, which will yield an average of 18 pigs per sow, each pig weighing 15 kilograms at weaning.

The above measures should give an average total of 9,500 cows yielding 1,500 liters of milk and one calf each, and 40,100 sheep yielding 2,200 kilograms of wool, one lamb, and 70 liters of milk each.

The farm workers' cooperatives breed 80 percent of their cows by artificial insemination and obtain 95-percent impregnation; following the same procedures for sheep, they will breed 40 percent by artificial insemination, with a 95 percent impregnation.

Farm workers' cooperatives will introduce apiculture and, within one year, will establish apiaries on 51 farms, numbering 880 hives.

To increase fodder production, irrigated areas will be expanded by 32,000 decares, and all running and ground waters will be fully utilized for this purpose.

State compulsory delivery quotas will be delivered by 100 percent and within the shortest possible periods.

To properly fulfill the above program, instruction courses will be established before 1 March 1951 to train the following personnel: 500 field-brigade men, 200 livestock-brigade men, 500 zveno /groups/ of men for high-yield operations, and 100 livestock operators specializing in high yields. In addition, agronomic and zootechnical study groups will include about 5,000 persons, mostly young persons.

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Educational and cultural centers, based on socialist principles, will be established in five populated places.

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Similar pledges have been made by other okoliyas.

TO IMPROVE LIVESTOCK CARE, MEAT SUPPLY -- Sofia, Izgrev, 15 Feb 51

The plan for the expansion of animal husbandry should be adjusted to the meat-supply plan. The commission established for this purpose is endeavoring to assure the proper replacement of animal stock, which means that only weak and unfit animals should be slaughtered. The Mesotsentrala enterprises therefore will have to fatten the cattle and pigs before slaughtering. In addition, farm workers' cooperatives, state farms, and fattening enterprises should set up preslaughter fattening centers. The commission will set up a plan based on the estimated annual increase in meat and fat consumption and in requirements for hides.

A number of barns, of light construction, will be required for the proper fattening operations. It will also be necessary to establish a plan for the widest possible utilization of food waste for fodder, and for the speedy transportation of animals and fodder to the fattening centers. The objective of the plan should be to increase meat consumption in 1953 by 40 percent over the 1950 level.

Fattening should increase the weight of pigs by one kilogram for every six units of fodder, and beef cattle by one kilogram for every eight units.

The cost of meat should br reduced by proper fattening norms, aided by the mechanization of labor and the improvement of fattening feeds and rations.

This program presupposes carefully planned slaughtering operations and the elimination of illegal slaughtering. Every animal should be registered. Slaughtering outside the Mesotsentrala should be authorized only according to plan and should be recorded. Records are kept mainly by the Central Cooperative Union. Slaughtering for restaurants and other public enterprises should be registered by the Ministry of Food and Supply.

SEED-CLEANING PROGRAM LAGS -- Sofia, Izgrev, 16 Feb 51

Although the final deadline for seed cleaning and disinfecting was 15 February, much of the seed for spring sowing has not been processed yet. As of that date, only 38 percent of the seed has been cleaned and 32 percent disinfected throughout the country. This tardiness is most noticeable in the grain-producing areas of Plovdiv, Pleven, Vratsa, Ruse, and others.

The germinating ability of seed is tested in 28 agricultural laboratories and eight seed-controling experimental stations.

Better progress has been achieved in preparing and overhauling small agricultural machinery. As of 10 February, 84.2 percent of the plows, 98.8 percent of the harrows, 96 percent of the cultivators, and 93.7 percent of the drills have been overhauled. Blagoevgrad and Turnovo okrugs have been the slowest in this work.

The MTS campaign may be delayed by the shortage of spare parts and attachments. These shortcomings are especially felt in the recently established MTS. A serious difficulty is also created by the lack of skilled personnel in the new MTS. The MTS Administration and the okoliya and local people's soviets should take immediate measures for training necessary personnel.

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An additional handicap is the negligent attitude of some MTS and farm workers' cooperatives in concluding their mutual agreements. Many cooperatives have drafted agreements on paper only and without discussing the provisions at their general assembly meetings.

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